

## Message Text

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22

ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:WNHOWELL:PDW

APPROVED BY NEA/ARN:MDRAPER

NEA/P:EOJONES

S/S:LRMACFARLANE

P:POAKLEY (SUBS)

NEA:AEGRIFFIN

----- 004813

O 160246Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 229195

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, LE

SUBJECT: INTERVIEW WITH "MONDAY MORNING"

REF: BEIRUT 7463

1. WHILE WE ARE SYMPATHETIC TO THE EMBASSY'S WISH TO BE RESPONSIVE TO "MONDAY MORNING," WE BELIEVE EMBASSY SHOULD CONTINUE TO REFRAIN FROM BEING DRAWN INTO "INTERVIEW" FORMATS WITH LOCAL PRESS. FEELING HERE IS THAT UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES IN LEBANESE SITUATION MAKE IT ESSENTIAL THAT STATEMENTS OF POLICY AND POLICY CLARIFICATIONS COME FROM WASHINGTON EXCLUSIVELY, WITH EMBASSY PROVIDING QUOTES BY SECRETARY OR PRESS SPOKESMAN TO INQUIRERS. FYI: WE ARE PRESENTLY CONSIDERING A STATEMENT OF U.S. VIEWS WHICH MYGHT BE ISSUED IN CONJUNCTION WITH SARKIS' ASSUMPTION OF THE PRESIDENCY AND MANY OF QUESTIONS FROM THIS PERIODICAL MIGHT BE ADDRESSED IN POLICY STATEMENT. END FYI.

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2. THEREFORE, YOU SHOULD FIRMLY TURN OFF NAJIA'S REQUEST,

TELLING HIM IF NECESSARY THAT EMBASSY IS NOT AUTHORIZED TO PARTICIPATE IN QUESTION-AND-ANSWER INTERVIEW FORMATS. YOU COULD, HOWEVER, POINT OUT TO HIM THAT THE USG POSITION ON LEBANESE SITUATION IS UNUSUALLY FULL, AS NAJIA'S FREQUENT RECOURSE TO SECRETARY'S SEPTEMBER 11 PRESS CONFERENCE INDICATES. WE CERTAINLY HAVE NO OBJECTION TO HIS DRAWING UPON THIS CONSIDERABLE BODY OF MATERIAL WHICH, WE FEEL, PROVIDES ADEQUATE RESPONSES OVER MANY MONTHS TO MOST OF HIS QUERIES. ROBINSON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INSTRUCTIONS, POLICIES, FOREIGN RELATIONS, PRESS CONFERENCES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 SEP 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** greeneet  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976STATE229195  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** WNHOWELL:PDW  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760349-0073  
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**Reference:** 76 BEIRUT 7463  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** greeneet  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 28 JUL 2004  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** INTERVIEW WITH "MONDAY MORNING"  
**TAGS:** PFOR, SOPN, LE, US  
**To:** BEIRUT  
**Type:** TE  
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